

CITY CLERK
HONOLULU, HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION SERVICES
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

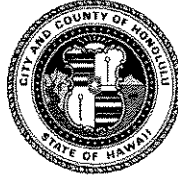
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MUFI HANNEMANN
Mayor

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May 4, 2009

The Honorable Nestor Garcia, Chair
and Members of the Budget Committee
Honolulu City Council
530 South King Street, Room 202
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

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CITY COUNCIL
HONOLULU, HAWAII

Dear Chair Garcia and Councilmembers:

Subject: BUDGET COMMUNICATION NO. 9

Per your letter dated April 13, 2009, concerning questions that were generated at the Operating Budget hearings held on March 24th, the Department of Transportation Services (DTS) responses are below.

Item 14. Department of Transportation Services

Question 7a) Please provide an overview and status report, to include an estimated cost per patient/client, for the Handi-van assessments currently being performed by the Rehabilitation Hospital of the Pacific. Please confirm whether the proposed shut downs of two of their facilities will impact the number of assessments proposed in the FY 2010 budget.

Answer: Rehabilitation Hospital of the Pacific is contracted to provide in-person assessment of certain individuals who are applying for ADA Paratransit Eligibility. Individual applications that are difficult to discern and individuals that disagree with DTS determinations are sent to REHAB for ADA paratransit eligibility functional assessment.

REHAB is unable to conduct ADA paratransit eligibility cognitive assessments at this time.

Current cost	= \$172.00 per applicant
Average monthly number of applicants	= 60

Impact of Rehab Hospital auxiliary clinic shut-downs: No impact is expected.

Question 7b) Please provide a summary listing of all Transit Funds moneys proposed for FY 2010.

Answer: A breakdown of the FY 2010 Transit Fund distribution follows:

Transit Fund (Fund 290)	
Department/ Account	Amount Proposed
COR	\$1,431,306
DDC	\$305,000
DPP	\$1,988,047
DTS	\$8,468,613
Provisional Account*	\$2,623,000
Total	\$14,815,966
* Provisional Account Breakdown	
Retirement System	\$942,000
FICA	\$456,000
Health Fund	\$975,000
Risk Management	\$250,000
Total Provisional	\$2,623,000

Question 7c) Please provide greater information on the qualifications and job description of the Executive Assistant position proposed for the Rapid Transit Division.

Answer: The Executive Assistant II position listed for the Rapid Transit Division will be the Deputy Project Manager and reports directly to the Project Manager and indirectly to the General Manager. This position will play an integral role in the strategic and long-range support planning and provides principal oversight of: Right of Way Operations, Procurement, Grants and Financial Management, Configuration Management, Document Control, and Administrative activities.

This position was budgeted at the ES-03 level in the City Excluded Managerial Compensation Plan (EMCP). At the time the budget was submitted, EMCP employees were scheduled to get a 4 percent salary increase in July 2009. Since that time, EMCP salary increases were cancelled so the funding for this position should revert to the FY 2009 level which is \$138,240 and not the amount reflected in the Operating Budget request of \$148,764.

Question 7d) Please provide greater information on the qualifications and job descriptions of the Information Officers proposed for the Rapid Transit Division and an analysis of whether the duties of one or more of the positions could be better performed through a third-party.

Answer: The two positions proposed in the FY 2010 Budget for the Rapid Transit Division are Information Officer and Information Specialist III. These positions are both relevant to the scope of the Honolulu High-Capacity Transit Corridor Project.

The Information Officer position has the overall technical and administrative responsibility for planning, directing, supervising, reviewing and coordinating the Honolulu High-Capacity Transit Corridor Project public information and community outreach program.

The public information responsibilities associated with this position are complex, sensitive, and have a direct bearing on the project's success. The public, various governmental agencies, and non-governmental groups must continue to be engaged throughout the project as required by Federal and State law. The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) (USC 1969) mandates agency and public participation in defining and evaluating the impacts of the project alternatives. The project is required to follow the U.S. Department of Transportation guidelines for public participation, including Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (USC 1964c) and Executive Order 12898, Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-income Populations (USEO 1994), as well as Section 6002 of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient, Transportation Equity Act – A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) (PL 2005) guidance for federally-funded projects.

Chapter 343 of the Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS) (HRS 2008) and implementing regulations contained in Title 11, Chapter 200 (HAR 1996) of the Hawaii Administrative Rules also include consultation with agencies, citizen action groups, and concerned individuals during the Project. Coordination activities are also required under Section 106 of 36 CFR 800, Protection of Historic and Cultural Properties. The public involvement effort of consultation with the State Historic Preservation Division and other Section 106 consulting parties will continue throughout the project.

The Information Specialist III reports to the Information Officer and plans and executes a wide range of public informational activities encompassing all aspects of the Honolulu High Capacity Corridor Fixed Guideway project. Serves as project spokesperson, maintains effective working relationships with members of the media, community groups, and key individuals in the public and private sectors. Coordinates and prepares informational materials and reports. Represents the City and the project office at public

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and community meetings. This position is essential because the project is now engaged in several key activities in which disseminating accurate and timely information to the policy makers and the public is paramount to the successful outcome of the project. The current resource available to maintain the public outreach has reached its limit and the demand to expand the outreach effort requires additional resources as the project has engaged in procurement of construction contractors, finalizing the Environmental Impact Statement, and defining the final project.

We do not feel that third party procurement of these services would provide the level of involvement and knowledge that is required to provide timely and accurate responses to the media, community groups, and key individuals in the public and private sectors. We are willing to use temporary employees via Personal Services Contracts to fulfill the critical need for these positions.

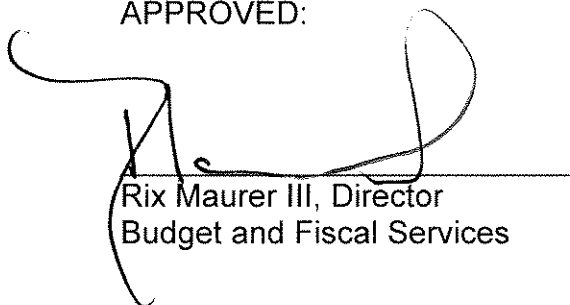
Please don't hesitate to contact me if you would like to discuss this further.

Very truly yours,




Wayne Y. Yoshioka
Director

APPROVED:


Rix Maurer III, Director
Budget and Fiscal Services

APPROVED:


Kirk W. Caldwell
Managing Director